Docket No. 55107-RCE (71526)

MAY 18 2005 PER THE UNITED ST

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

S. Mori et al.

SERIAL NO:

09/674,337

EXAMINER: C. Fronda

FILED:

July 26, 2001

GROUP:

1652

FOR: NICOTIANAMINE SYNTHASE AND GENE ENCODING THE SAME

## **CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 and designated by the "Express Mail" mailing label No. EV 492 339 986 US on May 18, 2005.

Sharon Bizokas

Mail Stop: RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## LETTER

Applicants previously filed an Amendment and attachments on April 15, 2005, via Express Mail. Because Applicants have not received either a Notice of Allowance or an Advisory Action, Applicants are filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment filed on April 15, 2005, and submit a copy of the Amendment and attachments, including the three sheets of Reference Figures (marked "COPY") solely for the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the present application is respectfully considered in condition for allowance. An early reconsideration and notice of allowance are

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earnestly solicited.

It is believed that all outstanding rejections have been addressed by this submission and that all the claims are in condition for allowance. If discussion of any amendment or remark made herein would advance this important case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned as soon as convenient.

Applicants have already filed a two-month extension of time and fee. Applicants hereby request an additional one-month extension of time for the RCE and accompanying materials. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our deposit account no. 04-1105 for the appropriate fee or to credit any overpayments thereof. Although it is not believed that any additional fee (in addition to the fee concurrently submitted) is required to consider this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our deposit account no. 04-1105 should any fee be deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 18, 2005

Kathryn A. Piffat, Ph.D., (Reg.) No. 34,901)

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